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WEST SUFFOLK.

R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year

1948.



ROBERT H. CLAYTON, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health for the Rural District of Thingoe in the County of West Suffolk for the year ending 31st December, 1948.

Public Health Offices,
8, Whiting Street,
Bury St. Edmunds.

July 1949.

To:-

The Chairman and Members of the
Rural District Council of Thingoe.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentleman,

Herewith I beg to submit for your favourable consideration my thirteenth Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health, being for the year ended 31st December, 1948.

5th July, 1948, was the date on which the changes under the National Health Service Act, 1946, took effect - this Council, together with all other District and Borough Councils in West Suffolk by seeking delegation of powers from the County Council, indicated its desire to participate in the moulding of the health services enumerated in Part III of the Act. This delegation was not granted but many alterations to the County Council's schemes for each section suggested by the Districts were incorporated.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ROBERT H. CLAYTON.

M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Officers of the Authority.

(a) Medical - One part-time Medical Officer of Health,

Robert H. Clayton, M.B., B.S., B.Hy.,
D.P.H. (Durham). Cert. Mental Deficiency
and Allied Subjects (London), appointed in 1936.

This Officer does not engage in private practice but holds in addition the following appointments: - Medical Officer of Health, Newmarket U.D.C., Cosford R.D.C., Thedwastre R.D.C., and Mildenhall R.D.C.

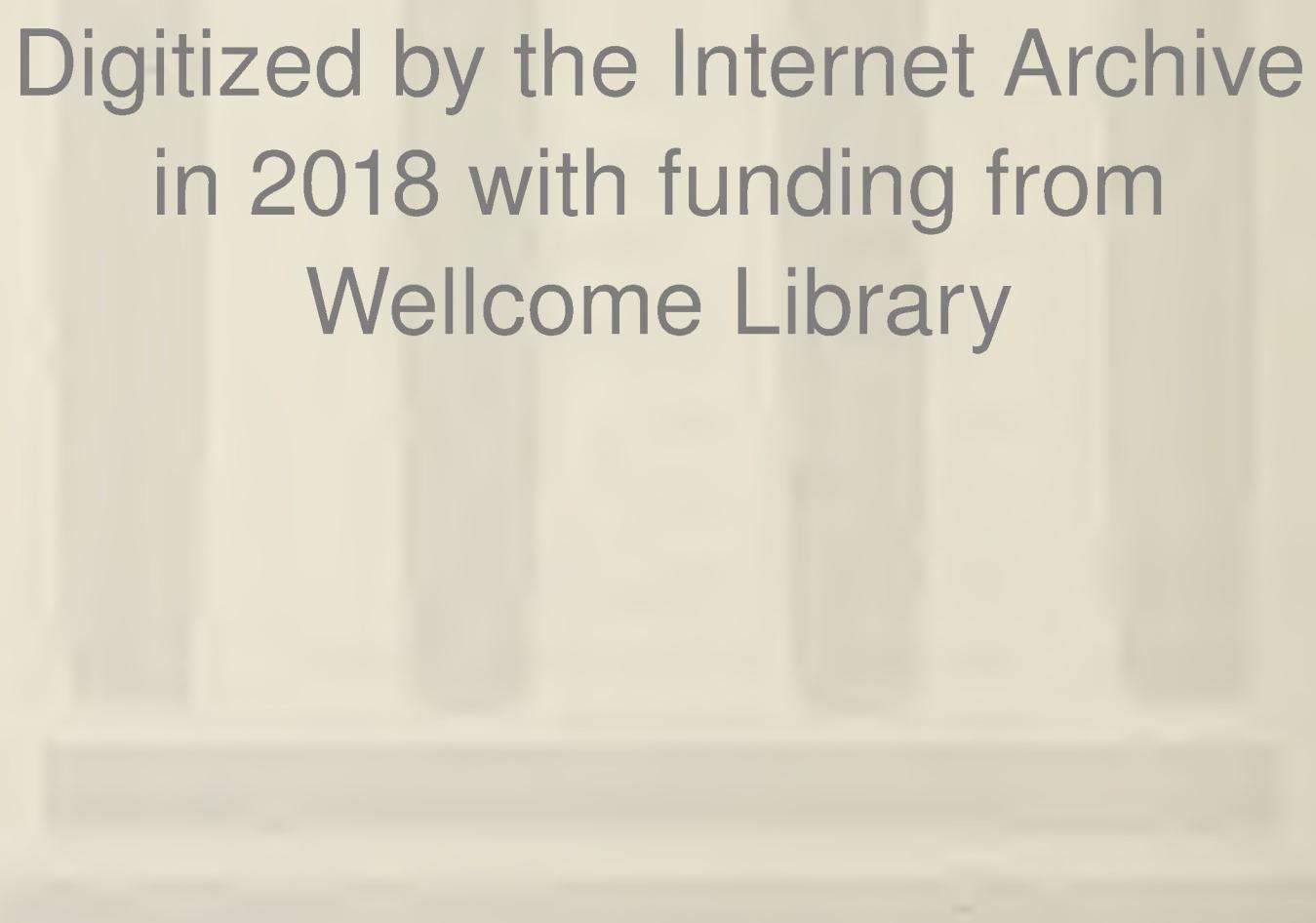
(b) Others - One Sanitary Inspector,

S. M. Casson, A.M.I.S.E., M.S.I.A.,
Meat and Other Foods Diploma R.S.I.
Appointed February 1946.

Mr. Casson is also Surveyor to the Council.

One additional Sanitary Inspector,

R. L. Barker, M.S.I.A.,
Meat and Other Foods Diploma R.S.I.
Appointed 1st March, 1946.



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SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

1. GENERAL STATISTICS.	Area	106,500 acres.
Registrar General's estimate of the resident population. (16,320)	(1947) 1948. 16,630
Number of inhabited houses at end of year according to Rate Book	(5,050) 5,070
Rateable Value	(£57,994) £61,122
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	(£255) £265.16.0.

2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
	<u>(1947) 1948.</u>	<u>(1947) 1948.</u>	<u>(1947) 1948.</u>
Legitimate	(321) 316	(169) 151	(152) 165
Illegitimate	(23) 12	(9) 7	(14) 5

Stillbirths.

Legitimate	(8)	4	(4)	3	(4)	1
Illegitimate	(2)	4	(1)	3	(1)	1
<u>Deaths.</u>	(234)	200	(124)	110	(110)	90

	<u>Thingoo.</u>	<u>England & Wales.</u>
	<u>(1947) 1948.</u>	<u>(1947) 1948.</u>

<u>Birth Rate.</u> (Live births per 1000 civilian population).	(21.1)	19.7	(20.5)	17.9
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<u>Stillbirth Rate</u> per 1000 population.	(0.61)	0.48	(0.50)	0.42
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<u>Stillbirth Rate</u> per 1000 total (live & still) births.	(28.2)	23.8	(-)	-
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<u>Death Rate</u> per 1000 resident population.	(14.3)	12.0	(12.0)	10.8
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<u>Death Rate of Infants under 1 year.</u>				
All infants per 1000 live births.	(34.9)	42.7	(41)	34

Legitimate Infants per 1000 legitimate births	(34.3)	41.4	(-)	-
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Illegitimate Infants per 1000 illegitimate births.	(43.5)	83.3	(-)	-
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14 deaths of infants under 1 year occurred, (5 males, 8 females legitimate and 1 male illegitimate). One death from Maternal Causes (Heading 30), 23 deaths from Cancer, no deaths from Measles or Whooping Cough or from Diarrhoea (under 2 years) were recorded.

On page 3 is a table giving the causes and the number of deaths occurring at the various age groups. The totals correspond with the Registrar General's figures.

The deaths are classified under the Headings given in the New Abridged List of Causes, as used in England and Wales and Northern Ireland, as set out on Page XXXIX of the Manual of the International List of Causes of Deaths - 1938.

Below is a table giving the causes and number of deaths in 1948 occurring at the various age groups. The totals correspond with the Registrar-General's figures.

CAUSES OF DEATHS.	Deaths at the Subjoined ages of "RESIDENTS" whether occurring in or beyond the District.										TOTAL Registrar Gen- eral's figures.	
	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 55.	65 and upwards.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
M = Male F = Female												
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory system.	- - - - -	M. F.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- 1 1 1 - -	- - - - -	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis.	- - - - -		- 1	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -					1
14. Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	1 1 2 -	- - - - -	3 1	1	3 1	1	
15. Cancer of Breast.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	1	- - - - -	1	
16. Cancer of all other sites.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	1 4 1 7 5	- - - - -	11 7	11 7	11 7	11 7	
17. Diabetes.							1 - 1 1	2	1	2	1	
18. Intra-cranial vascular lesions.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	1 1 2 15 16	- - - - -	16 19	16 19	16 19	16 19	
19. Heart Disease.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	1 - 1 -	- - - - -	5 7 36 27	- - - - -	43 34	43 34	43 34	43 34	
20. Other diseases of the circulatory system.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	1 - 2 1 - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	3 1	3 1	3 1	3 1	
21. Bronchitis.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	1 1 3 1	- - - - -	4 2	2	4 2	2	
22. Pneumonia.	2 1 - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- 2 3 -	- - - - -	5 3	5 3	5 3	
23. Other respiratory diseases.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	1 1 -	- - - - -	1 1	1 1	1 1	
24. Ulceration of the stomach or duodenum.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	1 - 1 1	- - - - -	2 1	2 1	2 1	2 1	
26. Appendicitis.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	1 -	1	1 -	1	
27. Other digestive diseases.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	1 -	1	1 -	1	
28. Nephritis.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	4 2	4 2	4 2	4 2	
30. Other maternal causes.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	1 - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	1	
31. Premature Birth.	- 2 - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	2	
32. Congenital malformations, birth injury, infantile disease.	3 5 - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	3 5	3 5	3 5	
33. Suicide.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	1 - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	1 -	1	
34. Road traffic accidents.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	1 -	1	1 -	1	
35. Other violent causes.	1 - 1 - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	2 -	2 -	
36. All other causes.	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	1 - 1 -	- - - - -	1 2 4 3	- - - - -	7 5	7 5	7 5	7 5	
TOTAL.	Males.	6 - 1 -	- - -	2 - 4 -	- 18 -	79 - 110 -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	
	Females.	- 8 - -	- - -	- 1 - -	- 4 - 19 -	- 58 - 90 -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	

	Rateable Value.	Penny Rate Product.	No. of inhabited houses.	Registrar- General's Estimate Population.	Deaths under one year.		Births.		Stillbirths.	
					Legit- imate.	Illegit- imate.	Legit- imate.	Illegit- imate.	Legit- imate.	Illegit- imate.
1936.	£34,082	£136	4,020	15,240	184	5	Nil	190	12	8
1937.	£37,521	£170	4,074	15,560	184	3	2	214	8	7
1938.	£42,877	£167	4,463	15,470	192	3	1	188	10	8
1939.	£43,798	£194	4,683	15,370	206	5	Nil	248	11	8
1940.	£53,231	£230	4,974	16,310	249	14	Nil	246	9	8
1941.	£49,943	£223	4,954	17,250	230	12	1	283	27	4
1942.	£51,034	£220	4,814	17,220	210	14	1	269	17	9
1943.	£52,971	£225	4,820	17,420	223	9	1	271	35	6
1944.	£51,637	£229	4,806	16,960	234	18	2	295	4C	8
1945.	£53,244	£224	4,870	15,930	185	5	3	245	46	5
TOTALS FOR DECADE.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1936 to 1945.	ANNUAL AVERAGE DURING DECADE.	£47,034	£202	2,097	88	11	2,449	217	71	11
1936 to 1945.		4,648	16,273	210	9	1	245	22	7	1
1946.	£57,403	£238	4,969	16,120	173	6	1	291	28	6
1947.	£57,994	£255	5,050	16,320	234	11	1	321	23	8
1948.	£61,122	£265.16.	5070	16,630	200	13	1	316	12	4

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

(a) LABORATORY FACILITIES. As from 31st March, 1947, the Emergency Public Health Laboratory, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge, have continued these services, without a block payment, under the directorship of Dr. R. M. Fry.

(b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES. The County Council became responsible for these services on the 5th July, 1948, the Appointed Day, for the commencement of the National Health Service Act. In effect this appeared to be only a new financial arrangement, for the County Council decided to carry out their obligations by making use of the existing Red Cross Services.

(c) NURSING IN THE HOME. The County Council as the Local Health Authority under the National Health Service Act proposed to continue the existing arrangements for the provision of a domiciliary nursing service. It is not expected that adequate staff will be available for a long time, but the provision of a night service will be considered when the shortage of nurses becomes less acute.

(d) CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES. The National Health Service Act has changed the responsibility to other authorities for some clinics and treatment centres, none of which are the responsibility of the Local District Council.

(e) HOSPITALS. The hospitals serving the District passed into the hands of the Minister of Health on 5th July, the Appointed Date.

The hospitals used by Thingoe residents may be judged on the following information with regard to live births and deaths.

Of the 328 total live births to Thingoe Residents, only 149 occurred at their own homes. The remaining 179 births took place outside of Thingoe, of which the great majority occurred either at St. Mary's Hospital, Bury St. Edmunds, or at the West Suffolk General Hospital, Bury St. Edmunds.

Of the 200 deaths of Thingoe Residents in 1948 there were 111 which occurred at their own homes in the District and 5 which occurred at homes of relatives or friends outside the District. The remaining 84 deaths occurred at hospitals or nursing homes as under:-

- 39 West Suffolk General Hospital, Bury St. Edmunds.
- 33 St. Mary's (P.A.C.) Hospital, " " "
- 1 Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge.
- 2 St. Audry's Hospital, Melton.
- 4 Walnutree Hospital, Sudbury.
- 1 St. Bartholomew's Hill End Hospital, London.
- 1 Papworth Village Settlement.
- 1 Royal Southern Hospital, Fazakerley, Liverpool.
- 2 Osborn Nursing Home, Thetford.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) WATER. Progress of Proposed Comprehensive Scheme. Following upon the local Public Enquiry into the water supply position in Thingoe and Thedwastre held in November of 1947 the Council were informed that the scheme submitted at this Enquiry had been accepted by the Ministry of Health in principle, and subsequently permission to proceed with the first third of the scheme was given. During 1948, therefore, the Consulting Engineers prepared detailed proposals and duplicate boreholes were sunk at each of the three sites where trial borings had been sunk in 1947. The sinking of these three borings was not completed until 1949, but on test there was evidence of a very satisfactory supply, both quantitatively and qualitatively, as shown by the following analyses:-

	<u>Rushbrooke Borehole.</u>	<u>Risby Borehole.</u>	<u>Ixworth Borehole.</u>
Appearance.	Opalescence with a slight flocculent deposit consisting of chalk particles stained with iron oxide together with a few threads of Gallionella.	Bright with a very slight deposit of Mineral debris consisting chiefly of amorphous chalk particles stained with iron and copper. No iron bacteria found.	Faint opalescence with no visible deposit becoming bright with a very slight deposit of iron oxide on keeping. No iron bacteria found.
Turbidity (Silica Scale).	18	Less than 5	6
Colour. (Hazen)	Nil	Nil	Slight yellow brown.
Odour.	Oily.	Faint oily.	Oily.
Reaction pH.	Neutral: 7.1	Neutral: 7.2	Neutral: 7.1
Free Carbon Dioxide.	27	33	31
Electric Conductive at 20°C.	530	530	680
Total Solids, dried at 180°C.	355	355	455
Chlorine in Chlorides.	19	17	43
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate.	270	250	280
Hardness.	Total 305 Carbonate Temporary 270 Non-Carbonate (Permanent) 35.	Total 300 Carbonate Temporary 250 Non-Carbonate (Permanent) 50.	Total 360 Carbonate Temporary 280 Non-Carbonate (Permanent) 80.
Nitrogen in Nitrates.	1.4	4.8	0.0
Nitrogen in Nitrites	Less than 0.01	Less than 0.01	Absent.
Free Ammonia.	0.014	0.000	0.17
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 27°C.	0.10	0.10	0.60
Albuminoid Ammonia.	0.000	0.000	0.030
Residual Chlorine.	-	-	-
Metals. Iron.	0.40	Less than 0.03	0.48
Copper.	0.05	0.29	0.05
Other Metals.	Absent.	Absent.	Absent.

Bacteriological Results.

No. of Colonies developing }
on Agar per cc. or ml. in }

1 day at 37°C
2 days at 37°C
3 days at 20°C

Not examined.

Not examined.

Not examined.

Inference. Rushbrooke Borehole.

This sample has opalescence and deposit causing distinct turbidity, the matter in suspension include an objectionable trace of iron. It is free from other metals apart from a minute trace of copper. The water is very hard in character but not excessively so, contains no excess of salinity or mineral constituents in solution and is of a high standard of organic quality.

The odour of oil and the trace of copper are probably due to the temporary pumping equipment employed for the test.

Apart from the lack of clarity and the objection to the trace of iron, these results are consistent with a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes from the aspect of the chemical analysis.

Inference. Risby Borehole.

This sample is reasonably clear and bright in appearance since it contains only a trace of matter in suspension. The water is neutral in reaction and carries an appreciable though not undue quantity of free carbon dioxide. It is very hard in character but not to an excessive degree, contains no excess of salinity or mineral constituents in solution and is of the highest standard of organic quality. It is free from metals apart from a negligible trace of iron and a trace of copper. The faint oily odour and the trace of copper are probably due to the use of temporary pumping equipment.

From the aspect of the chemical analysis, these results are consistent with a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

Inference. Ixworth Borehole.

This sample has faint opalescence which causes perceptible though not marked turbidity which is due to the presence of an objectionable trace of iron. It is free from other metals apart from a minute trace of copper. The water is very hard in character though not excessively so, contains no excess of salinity or mineral constituents in solution and is very satisfactory organic quality.

The faint odour of oil and the trace of copper are probably due to the temporary pumping equipment employed for the test.

Apart from the objection to the trace of iron and the fact that the water tends to be very hard, the results are consistent with a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes from the aspect of the chemical analysis.

(Signed) GORDON MILES.

For the Counties Public Health Laboratories.

2nd April, 1948.

"

Existing Public Piped Supplies. The purity and composition of the water being supplied from the Council's public piped supplies are indicated in the following table:-

Site.	RESULT.						
	Bact.	Chemical.					
		pH.	Cl ₂	O ₂	Nitrate.	Nitrite.	Hardness.
Barrow,	Satis.	7.3	3.15	.0214	Nil	Nil	22.10
	Satis.	7.3	3.2	.0197	Nil	Nil	20.44
Bradfield St. George.	Satis.	7.2	3.65	.0247	Nil	Nil	20.78
	Satis.	7.2	3.65	.0226	Nil	Nil	20.0
Euston.	Satis.	7.4	2.75	.0264	0.45	Nil	18.26
	Unsatis.	7.3	2.75	.0362	0.5	Faint Trace.	18.0
Great Whelnetham.	Satis.	7.2	3.15	.0280	Nil	Nil	18.64
	Satis.	7.3	3.15	.0209	Nil	Nil	15.34
Ingham.	Satis.	7.3	3.85	.0230	Nil	Nil	20.38
	Satis.	7.1	3.45	.0229	0.10	Nil	19.26
Ixworth.	Satis.	7.2	4.35	.0220	Nil	Nil	18.65
	Satis.	7.2	4.75	.0220	Nil	Nil	18.60
Røde.	Satis.	7.3	2.25	.0561	Nil	0.40	(Clarke) 35.00
Chedburgh.	Satis.	7.2	3.75	.0445	Nil	Nil	27.88
	Satis.	7.1	3.75	.0264	Nil	Nil	19.26
Whepstead.	Satis.	7.3	2.85	.0825	Nil	Nil	(Clarke) 30.00

The Table on the following page shows the average daily pumping hours at the Council's water works, together with the average daily volume of supply compared with 1946 and 1947.

Parish.	Average daily pumping hours.		Average daily volume.			
	1948.	1947.	1946.	1948.	1947.	1946.
Barrow.	6½	8½	6½	6,978	6,500	5,500
Bradfield St. George.	2¾	1¼	1	8,102	4,300	3,200
Chedburgh.	2	-	-	6,000	-	-
Euston.	1½	1½	-	1,900	1,500	-
Ingham.	3	3	2¾	1,800	1,700	1,700
Ixworth.	7½	3½	3	7,500	3,500	3,100
Whelnetham.	8½	8	8	23,900	22,300	22,300
Whepstead.	½	½	½	100	100	100

Of the 5,070 inhabited houses in Thingoe, 511 (10.1%) have a piped water supply, and 384 (7.6%) are within 200 feet of standpipes.

Parish.	Number of Houses on Piped Supply.	Within 200 feet of Standpipes.
Ampton.	-	-
Bardwell.	-	-
Barrow.	55	55
Barton, Great.	37	4
Barnham.	-	-
Barningham.	20	-
Bradfield Combust.	17	15
Bradfield St. Clare.	-	-
Bradfield St. George.	44	12
Brockley.	-	-
Chedburgh.	15	-
Chevington.	-	-
Concy Weston.	-	-
Culford.	17	-
Denham.	2	7
Euston.	1	26
Fakenham Magna.	-	-
Fleampton.	-	-
Fornham All Saints.	-	-
Fornham St. Genoveve.	-	-
Fornham St. Martin.	-	-
Hardwick.	-	-
Margrave.	-	-
Hawstead.	-	-
Hengrave.	14	-
Hepworth.	-	-
Honington.	-	-
Hopton.	-	-
Horriinger.	-	-
Ickworth.	-	-
Ingham.	27	26
Ixworth.	86	121
Knettishall.	-	-
Lackford.	-	-
Livermere Great.	-	-
Livermere Little.	-	-
Market Weston.	3	-
Newton.	-	-
Pakenham.	-	-
Rede.	-	10
Risby.	-	-
Rougham.	92	6
Rushbrooke.	-	-
Sapiston.	-	-
Saxham, Great.	4	16
Saxham Little.	-	-
Stanningfield.	28	21
Stanton.	-	-
Stow West.	-	-
Thelnetham.	4	-
Thorpe (Ixworth)	-	-
Timworth.	-	-
Troston.	-	-
Westley.	-	-
Whelnetham, Great.	34	49
Whelnetham, Little.	8	6
Whepstead.	2	10
Worwell.	-	-
	511	384

During 1948 small extensions to existing pumping plants were made. A 3" screw gland cast iron main was laid at Great Barton taking water from the County Council smallholdings supply, so that a community of some nine houses and two market gardens were able to be supplied by public piped water for the first time. In the north of the district a 4" main was laid from the ex-Army pumping plant at Euston taken over by the Council in 1947. This main connects the villages of Euston and Barnham and makes it possible to supply some 91 additional properties in these two villages. These connections will be commenced during 1949.

The pumping stations continued to provide an adequate supply of water for the needs of those being served, but it was found necessary to remove the defective reciprocating pump at the Barrow water works and instal a submersible electric pump because of frequent breakdowns. The new pump was installed in March 1948 and provided a reliable supply.

The Council took over an ex-R.A.F. pumping station, 50,000 gallon water tower and certain distribution mains in the Chedburgh area and lifted approximately a mile and a half of 6" pipe which was redundant, so that it could be used in a proposed extension to the villages of Chevington and Hargrave.

The move to bring on to the mains as many people as possible in the Rougham area which was commenced during 1947 was continued throughout the year, and by the end of the year only a very small number of properties remained to be connected.

A small bore on a housing site for six houses at Nowton was developed by providing a small power head and petrol engine, and erecting a 2,000 gallon water tower.

The general condition of private wells was known to be unsatisfactory from the great deal of investigation carried out for the Water Enquiry of 1947, hence during 1948 only 24 samples of private supplies were taken, of which 18 proved unsatisfactory and 2 suspicious. Very little can be done to improve the condition of these supplies because of the nature of the well construction, although temporary satisfaction has been obtained by sterilising for short periods with Calcium Chloride, and thoroughly cleaning the well and pumping the water to waste. Where supplies are unsatisfactory and no positive action can be taken occupants have been warned to boil all water before use.

(ii) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE. The Council's policy of providing sewage disposal by water carriage to all new communities (i.e. new council estates) was continued throughout the year, even the smallest group of six new houses being provided with a sewage disposal works on the septic tank pattern. This often involved much difficulty in providing this service within the figure that the Ministry would normally authorise. The ideal conditions of an even fall and a suitable disposal point have seldom been available. More often than not sites have been completely flat and had no other discharge point than a ditch at a higher level than the sewer. Furthermore, in many such cases electricity has not been immediately available so that even the lifting of the settled effluent to a higher level for aeration purposes was not a practicable proposition. However, plants have been designed as far as possible so that they take advantage of the natural biological action of the soil.

The sewers and disposal works at Whelnetham which were designed for a larger community than the council houses proceeded satisfactorily and at the end of the year were almost complete. This scheme should provide the basis for the future development of this part of Whelnetham.

The larger scheme for the village of Barrow also proceeded satisfactorily, although with greater difficulty - deep trenches in waterlogged ground made progress slow at times, but again towards the end of the year this scheme was nearing completion, so that during 1949 it will be at the disposal of some 600 inhabitants.

The mere provision of sewers and disposal works does not solve the problem of house drainage. During past years efforts have been made to convert insanitary vault closets into pail closets with the result that the Council cannot now claim that such pails are insanitary or unsatisfactory. The Council is, therefore, faced with bearing half the cost of conversion of these pails into water closets which, of course, involves great expense. Owners of property of the type prevalent in such villages as Barrow are drawing meagre rents and are usually not prepared to expend the amount required to convert to water closet accommodation. This difficulty must be resolved or else the Council will have spent several thousands of pounds only to find that owners are not connecting their houses to the sewage scheme provided.

2. RIVERS AND STREAMS. No change.

3. (i) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION. Three vault closets were converted to pails during the year. There has been a noticeable desire on the part of many owner/occupiers to instal water closet accommodation where water is available, but no sewer. Several individual septic tank plants have been installed at such premises, and all new houses built by private enterprise have provided water closet accommodation.

(ii) PUBLIC CLEANSING. The second vehicle, reported in the 1947 report as having been ordered by the Council, was delivered in November 1948. A re-arrangement of rounds was made so that all small semi-urban districts, such as Ixworth, Barrow, Great Barton, Hopton, and Pakenham are now receiving a weekly collection, and all other parishes a fortnightly collection. The Council entered the National Waste Paper contest and were successful in obtaining the third prize of £250 in the Rural District Section. There was a marked increase in salvage of all types collected during the year as the figures tabled below show.

Year.	Mileage.	Volume Cu.Yds.	Salvage.					
			£. s. d.	Paper Cwts.	Bottles. Doz.	Rags.	Scrap.	
1946.*	4,845	1,365	23. 2. 6.	48.0	31.0	-	15.9	
1947.	7,420	2,711	88.12. 4.	164.5	283.5	1.75	125.0	
1948.	9,495	3,293	204.17. 1.	724.0	360.0	2.5	218.0	

* May to December only

Four refuse tips were in operation and, although the provision of adequate covering material presents a difficulty, no major nuisance was reported. The rodent operators treated the pits regularly for infestation, and tip dressing was used to prevent insect nuisance.

The Council also took delivery of a cesspool emptier during March. This operated on one day per week until November, when the second refuse vehicle was delivered, after which it became possible to operate this vehicle on two days per week. All properties are charged for the service at the rate of 25/- for a single load and 30/- for a double load. Certain cesspool emptying work has been carried out in neighbouring districts and in those cases an additional charge of 1/- per mile from the Council's depot is made. 68 cesspools were emptied during 1948, and approximately 1,400 miles travelling were covered.

Gradually during the last three years the public cleansing service has been welded into a reasonably efficient service, although it is still noticeable that many people do not provide proper receptacles for the storage of refuse. This tendency is diminishing as the old receptacles wear out and the public begin to accept the idea that refuse collection is no longer a novelty but an essential service.

(iii) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA. In view of the increasing demands in other directions upon the time of the Surveyor and Sanitary Inspectors Staff the Council agreed to the appointment of a second Additional Sanitary Inspector, who will commence duty in 1949.

It will be noted from the housing figures that only a comparatively small number of houses were inspected for housing defects, and that on an average 4 visits were made to each premises for the purpose. Both these figures reflect present day conditions. In the

first instance in view of the inadequacy of the available houses it is pointless to keep inspecting houses which were assessed as beyond repair during 1945-46, when the Hobhouse Survey was made. Actual inspections made have restricted to those following a complaint, and to the homes of registered tuberculosis cases to ensure that their living conditions were made satisfactory. The second figure of 220 inspections for the purpose indicates the difficulty of achieving success; builders have been fully occupied in other directions. Small items of repair were not sufficient to interest the builder in many cases. Rents are so low that owners do not feel justified in spending more money on properties, which by all normal standards, should be demolished. A great deal of negotiation and visiting has therefore been necessary to achieve very little. Many owners are quite happy for action to be taken under Section 11 of the Housing Act, when they make no representation or propose no scheme of reconditioning, but allow the Council to serve a demolition order. They no doubt feel that in the present circumstances the property is a grave liability, and no longer an investment.

In past decades more and more cottages have been provided with a gully in the yard and a pipe to a neighbouring ditch, thus nuisances in villages due to ditches are continually arising. It is difficult for the Council to assume obligation in such a great number of cases, and still more difficult to select any individual as being the cause of the nuisance. Every effort is now made to prevent the indiscriminate discharge of yard gullies, etc. into ditches, but the legacy of the last 50 years is still with us as a problem.

Mr. Casson has supplied the following table which shows the number of visits of all types made during the year, and the notices served:-

SUMMARY OF VISITS MADE.

	No. of visits.	Informal Notices served.	Complied with.
To notified Tuberculosis Cases			
Houses.	37	-	-
Infectious Diseases.	11	-	-
Disinfection.	11	-	-
Disinfestation.	9	-	-
Water Connections.	45	-	-
Wells.	27	1	1
Water Carting.	22	-	-
Waterworks.	226	-	-
New Mains.	131	-	-
Water Meter Reading.	142	-	-
Vaults converted.	3	-	-
Sewage Disposal.	35	-	-
Sewers.	40	1	1
Cesspools.	9	-	-
Drains and Ditches.	49	3	2
New Drains.	66	6	6
Sanitary Accommodation.	1	-	-
Overcrowding.	17	-	-
Dangerous Structures.	11	1	1
Hostels.	1	-	-
Hutted Sites.	21	-	-
Council Houses.	21	-	-
Moveable Dwellings.	12	-	-
Dirty Premises.	3	-	-
New Buildings.	132	2	2
Housing Sites.	46	-	-
Essential Works.	25	-	-
Petroleum.	2	-	-
Housing Defects.	220	-	-
To conversion of old persons dwellings.	151	2	1
Schools.	3	-	-
Food Premises.	8	-	-
Refuse Tips.	17	-	-
Refuse Collection.	2	-	-
Refuse Notices Posting.	9	-	-
Carried forward:-	15,65	16	14

	No. of Visits.	Informal Notices served.	Complied with.
Brought fwd.	1,565	16	14
Cowsheds.	63	7	5
Animals kept.	1	-	-
Salvage.	90	-	-
Morrison Shelters.	26	-	-
Rats (not including rodent operators).	2	-	-
Depot Supervision.	24	-	-
Miscellaneous.	25	-	-
Total:	1,696	24	20

New Buildings:- (Non-Council) Number of Plans approved 109
New Buildings completed 85

Factory Act, 1937.

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of Inspections.			Occupiers Notices.	Prosecuted.
		Written	Notices.	Prosecuted.		
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	45	6	2	Nil		
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	16	3	Nil	Nil		
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority * (excluding out-workers' premises).	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		
	61	9	2	Nil		

* i.e. Electrical Stations (Section 103 (1)), Institutions. (Section 104) and sites of Building Operations and Works of Engineering Construction (Sections 107 and 108).

Cases in which defects were found.

	Number of cases in which defects were found.				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred. To H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	2	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
Unsuitable or defective	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total:	2	1	Nil	Nil	Nil

(iv) SHOPS AND OFFICES. No visits were made to shops and offices.

(v) CAMPING SITES. Twelve visits were paid to the three licensed camping sites in the District on which there are approximately 40 persons.

(vi) SMOKE ABATEMENT. No smoke nuisance occurs.

(vii) SWIMMING BATHS. There are no swimming baths in the District.

(viii) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS. No cases of bed bug infestation were reported during the year.

(ix) COCKROACH INFESTATION. Only one case of cockroach infestation was reported, and the premises treated by the Council's Staff with D.D.T. powder satisfactorily.

(x) RODENT CONTROL. Miss F. Williams, Pest Officer to the District has supplied the following notes:-

Block Control. 3,590 house to house investigations and inspections were carried out. 200 infestations were treated - 150 rat bodies were found and it was estimated that 2,000 rats were killed.

Cockroach and wasp destruction was also undertaken.

Refuse Tips. 148 inspections were made to refuse tips and treatments carried out as required.

The Council, who appointed an Assistant Pest Officer in June, gave permission for attendance at two Courses of lectures and demonstrations in Rodent Control, which included the following subjects:-

1. Rat borne diseases.
2. Notes for Operators on Poisons and Safety Precautions.
3. Demonstration of Poisoning at Ipswich Destructor Works.
4. Demonstration of Pump Gassing and Sewer Control.

(xi) SCHOOLS. Three visits in regard to washing arrangements and sanitary accommodation were made.

SECTION D.

H O U S I N G.

1. (1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	62
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	220
(2) (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925.	14
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	14
(3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	17
(4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	45
2. <u>Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice.</u>	
Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers.	33
3. <u>Action under Statutory Powers during the year.</u>	
(a) <u>Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.</u>	
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	3
(2) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice:-	
(a) By Owners	3
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil
(b) <u>Proceedings under Public Health Acts.</u>	
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	Nil
(2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-	
(a) By Owners	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil
(c) <u>Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.</u>	
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which	
(a) Demolition Orders were made	10
(b) Undertakings accepted not to relet for human habitation	
(c) Undertaking cancelled upon completion of work.	7
(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.	19
(d) <u>Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.</u>	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made.	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses closed in pursuance of Closing Orders.	Nil

1. Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding.		
(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year		10
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein.		11
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein.		69
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year.		6
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year.		9
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases.		77
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority having taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding.		Nil

The Council pressed on with the demolition of condemned houses which were incapable of being used as housing even for temporary periods - thus several dilapidated structures which had been eyesores for many years were removed.

The Council purchased a row of eight cottages at Stanningfield and carried out their conversion into old peoples dwellings, providing water closet accommodation, bathrooms, hot and cold water and electric light. The accommodation consisted of a kitchen livingroom and hall on the ground floor with a large bedroom and a bathroom on the first floor. The conversions were carried out by direct labour at a cost of approximately £300 per dwelling, which besides being economical provided much needed old person accommodation.

Supervision of these works necessitated some 151 visits.

Housing is still the greatest problem of the Local Authority. The table on page 16 indicates the extent of the progress which the Ministry of Health have allowed the Council to make, and also allows comparison to be made with the achievements of my other four District Councils.

SECTION E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.

Registered Cowkeepers.	
T.T.	45
Accredited	16
Ungraded	114
Total:	<u>175</u>
Wholesale Producers	80
Retail Purveyors	20
Producer retailers	75
Total:	<u>175</u>

63 visits of inspection were made to cowsheds and dairies, and many other visits in conjunction with the Milk Advisory Officer of the County Council in connection with reconstruction and provision of cowsheds and dairies.

The general standard of cowshed and dairy buildings continues to improve, and the number of T.T. producers again increased during the year up to 45, which represents 25% approximately of the total producers.

7 Notices were served on cowkeepers of which five had been complied with at the end of the year. Notices were all in respect of cleanliness of premises. A sample of milk was taken when a Scarlet Fever case was discovered (employed in connection with milk production), but the sample gave no evidence of any infection.

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS. The slaughterhouses in the district have not operated for the slaughter of animals for sale, all slaughtering being carried out for this District in the Borough of Bury St. Edmunds. Eight visits were made to food premises, and it was not necessary to serve any notices.

The following items were surrendered and destroyed as being unfit for human consumption:-

1 tin corned beef.	2 tins vegetable soup.	1 tin marmalade.
1 tin Veal Loaf.	tin beans.	2 tins sardines.
1 tin (Danish)Pork Brown.	5 tins evaporated milk.	18 boxes cheese.
2 tins Liver Paste.	23 tins tomato juice.	26lbs. Beef.(Decomposed)

MILDENHALL.	Total						
Pop. 14,210.	Post	in	Post	in	Post	in	Post
	War.	Year.		War.	Year.		War.
COUNCIL HOUSES.							
Completed at end of 1946	Nil	(Nil)	18	(18)	Nil	(6)	35
" " 1947	55	(55)	55	(37)	62	(74)	84
" " 1948	94	(39)	102	(47)	102	(40)	212

CONVERSIONS BY COUNCIL.

Family Units provided in 1946	11	(11)	3	(3)	21	(21)	37	(37)	17	(17)
" " 1947	33	(22)	9	(6)	21	(Nil)	41	(4)	30	(13)
" " 1948	33	(Nil)	24	(18)	34	(13)	71	(30)	62	(32)

COUNCIL HOUSES IN COURSE OF ERECTION AT END OF 1948.

Roofed and Plastered.	21	12	38	24	2
Roofed.	6	-	-	-	-
Eaves Level.	4	4	4	2	2
Damp Course Level.	4	6	-	-	-
Footings.	-	8	-	-	-
TOTAL:	35	42	44	52	2

16 Work not commenced in 1948 but tenders invited or approved.

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- (c) ADULTERATION, ETC.
 - (d) CHEMICAL & BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.
 - (e) NUTRITION.
 - (f) SHELL-FISH (Mollescan)
 - (g) WATER CRESS.
- No change.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF & CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following table shows the number of Infectious Diseases among the civilian population during the year. These are the final numbers after corrections subsequently made either by the Notifying Medical Practitioner or by the Medical Superintendent of the Infectious Disease Hospital.

ALL NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) DURING 1948.

		Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Poliomyelitis.	Measles.	Pneumonia.	Dysentery.
Grand Total:	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.
Total: M. F.	138 60 78	Totals:	5 7 36 33	1 - 16 32	1 1 1 1	1 - - -	- - - -
Age 0 to under 1			3 3	- -	- 1	- - -	- - -
1 " " 3		1	11 11	- -	2 3	- - -	- - -
3 " " 5		2 1	7 3	- -	5 4	- - -	- - -
5 " " 10		3 4	12 18	- -	6 10	- - -	- - -
10 " " 15		- -	2 1	- -	3 9	- - -	- - -
15 " " 25		- 1	- 1	- -	- 3	- 1 1	- - -
25 " " 45		- -	- 1	1 1	- 2	- - -	- - -
45 " " 65		- -	- -	- -	- -	1 - -	- - -
65 and over.		- -	1 -	- -	- -	- - -	- - -

T U B E R C U L O S I S. NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1948.

During 1948 there were 18 new cases as follows:-

14 Pulmonary: 5 Males. 21, 28, 29, 58, 72 years.
 7 Females. 12, 23, 27, 29, 37, 39, 45 years.
4 Non-Pulmonary: 1 Male. 51 years.
 3 Females. 9, 12, 36 years.

There were 4 deaths:-

3 Pulmonary: 1 Male. 58 years.
 2 Females. 36, 62 years.
1 Non-Pulmonary: 1 Female. 9 years.



THIMGOE - 1936 to 1953. NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS).

	Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever.	Measles	Whooping Cough	Pneumonia	Erysipelas.	Infective Hepatitis	Acute Polio-myelitis.	Dysentery	Malaria meningitis.	Meningo-coccal	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Para-Typhoid Fevers	Undulant Fever	Puerperal Fever	Food Poisoning.	
1936.	1	27	-	-	9	3	-	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	3	-		
1937.	1	6	-	-	7	Nil	-	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	Nil	Nil		
1938.	2	4	-	-	7	1	-	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	1	Nil		
1939.	2	26	Nil	10	Nil	Nil	-	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	-		
1940.	9	112	75	10	10	10	10	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	-		
1941.	8	22	269	9	269	9	4	2	-	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	2	-		
1942.	2	27	4	57	4	4	4	Nil	-	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	-	-		
1943.	2	25	61	1	3	3	4	Nil	11	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	Nil	2		
1944.	4	21	10	39	9	9	4	22	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	-		
1945.	21	233	78	8	8	2	2	22	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	-		
1946.	7	23	33	4	1	15	1	22	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	3	-		
1947.	21	110	21	5	2	5	1	15	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	2	1		
1948.	12	48	74	2	Nil	1	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	-		
1949.	8	71	19	1	1	14	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	-		
1950.	2	24	82	5	1	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-		
All year																	
1950.	Nil	15	505	115	1	1	3	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	3	55	
1951.	Nil	11	41	46	10	Nil	5	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	Nil	1	Nil	
1952.	Nil	7	235	76	9	Nil	6	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	Nil	1	85	
1953.	Nil	11	142	3	4	Nil	3	2	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	1	Nil	

